

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01067 211146Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /038 W

-----025682 211205Z /50

R 211050Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3158

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1067

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: SHUM GV
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN GUINEA -- ARCHBISHOP TCHIDIMBO

REF: STATE 140207

1. ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGEABLE WESTERN AMBASSADOR,
ARCHBISHOP TCHIDIMBO VI CONFINED IN CAMP MAMADOU BOIRO,
CONAKRY, UNDER
CONDITIONS WHICH ARE RELATIVELY BETTER
THAN THE AVERAGE PRISONER. HIS QUARTERS ARE LARGER
AND MORE COMFORTABLE, HE IS ALLOWED TO RECEIVE PARCELS,
AND LIMITED COMMUNICATION WITH HIS FAMILY AND CATHOLIC
CONGREGATIONS IS TOLERATED. HE HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED
FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS WITH THEM HOWEVER.

2. ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO THIS AMBASSADOR RAISED
CASE OF TCHIDIMBO WITH CASAROLI (VATICAN) AND LATER
WITH PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE. HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT
VATICAN HAS NOT WANTED TO ROCK BOAT BY PRESSING AG-
GRESSIVELY FOR TCHIDIMBO'S RELEASE, RECKONING THAT
OVERALL INTEREST OF ORGANIZED CATHOLICISM IN GUINEA IS
BEST SERVED BY NOT ANTAGONIZING TOURE AND BY TRYING TO
MAINTAIN THE CHURCH'S OVERALL STATUS QUO. AMBASSADOR
WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY RECENT VATICAN EFFORTS IN TCHIDIMBO'S
BEHALF.

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3. AS A FIRST STEP, IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE FOR USG
TO RAISE TCHIDIMBO'S CASE WITH PRIME MINISTER BEAGOVUI DURING
CURRENT VISIT, PERHAPS CITING INQUIRY OF AMERICAN CATHOLICS
(REFTEL).CATHOLIC CONFERENCE NO DOUBT IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO
RE-ENGAGE VATICAN AUTHORITIES OR TO JUDGE WHETHER QUIET
NON-GOVERNMENTAL APPROACH TO GOG MIGHT BE USEFUL.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS, PRISONERS WELFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CONAKR01067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-0120
Format: TEL
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770637/aaaabfum.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b5586479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 140207
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2086592
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS IN GUINEA -- ARCHBISHOP TCHIDIMBO
TAGS: SHUM, GV, (TCHIDIMBO VI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b5586479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009